

## Causes of The Civil War

- The United States in the years preceding the Civil War comprised two regions that grew increasingly dissimilar.
- Ten years before the war - the vast majority of Americans in both the North and the South lived in rural areas rather than cities.
- Agriculture was the biggest contributor to the nation's economy
- Between 1850 and 1860 - the nation's cities received massive influx of rural people and immigrants from other countries.

### Economic Differences

- The North took advantage of the Industrial Revolution (Cyrus McCormick's mechanical reaper)
- Northern factories sprang up overnight
- Deposits of iron, coal, copper, and other materials were discovered
- North was able to produce weapons and other goods.
- 1852 - 1/10th of the goods manufactured in America came from Southern factories and mills.
- Southern economy was primarily based on agriculture. England and the North purchased cotton.
- Tobacco, rice, indigo, and other products were grown in the South as well.
- By 1860 - the South produced 3/4ths of the raw cotton used throughout the world. - could not manufacture the cotton.
- The North purchased the cotton and made it into finished goods. Those goods were then sold back to the South and other countries.

### Expansion and States' Rights

- Manifest Destiny - growing number of Americans felt the nation's borders were ordained by God to extend from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific.
- Mexican War (1846-48) US received lands out west through the treaty that ended the war.
- Treaty of Guadalupe (Feb. 2, 1848) - 525,000 square miles of territory (California, Nevada, Utah, most of Arizona and New Mexico and parts of Colorado and Wyoming) sold to the United States.

### Manifest Destiny and the Question of Slavery

- Growing rift between the North and the South over the issue of slavery and the territories.

- The South - wanted the new territories to allow slavery.
- The North - did not want the new territories to allow slavery.
- Northwest Ordinance (1787) - said that all territories north of the Ohio River were to be free.
- Up until 1819 - the North and South were equally divided in the Senate with eleven states each.
- Missouri Compromise (1820) - Missouri entered the Union as a slave state and Maine entered as a free state.
- Compromise of 1850 - Henry Clay and Daniel Webster - prohibited slavery in the District of Columbia. Admitted California as a free state and allowed newly acquired territories the right to decide whether slavery would be allowed or not.

### The Debate over States' Rights

- States' Rights - belief that the federal government had no right to decide important issues within a state.
- 10th Amendment - "The power not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people."
- The South said that this amendment prevented the federal government from interfering in a state's individual affairs.

### The Issue of Slavery

- The North and abolitionist insisted that slavery was morally wrong and should be abolished.

### Slavery in America's History

- Slaves were used for labor in the original 13 colonies.
- August 1619 - the first shipment of Africans were brought to the country. (Jamestown, Virginia) Sold as indentured servants.
- George Washington and Thomas Jefferson were slave owners.
- Washington would free his slaves in his will.
- Slavery was legal in the colonies by the Revolutionary War.
- Northern colonies eventually banned slavery outright.
- In the South - slaves worked on plantations and large farms.
- 1846 - Slavery was outlawed in all Northern states.
- Slavery was the backbone of the Southern agricultural economy.

### The Tragedy of Human Cargo

- The Triangle Trade - involved the exchange of rum, cotton, and other goods with Arab traders for West African slaves.
- The slaves were sold to plantation owners in the West Indies, and returning to America with profits from the sale of goods and slaves.
- During the voyage from Africa to the West Indies - slaves were placed in the ship's hold, shackled together, poorly fed, bad water, no sanitary facilities. The voyage took from 6 to 10 weeks. Many slaves died from illness.

### The Life of a Slave

- Slaves who were farmhands faced backbreaking labor and grueling hours. Worked in the fields from daybreak until the sun went down. They worked six days a week with Sunday off.
- Expected to obey their masters.
- Dissent was met with harsh punishment (beatings by whips)
- Most slaves worked as slowly and poorly as they could.
- Dead slaves were buried at night.

### Slave Revolts

- Most slaves revolted by working slowly, poorly, and inefficiently or by sabotaging tools and farm equipment.
- Stono Rebellion (1739) - Stono, South Carolina - Slave named Jemmy led 20 slaves in an attack at a store. The two white shopkeepers were killed. The slaves took weapons such as guns, powder. The group grew to 100 slaves. The group went on a killing spree of 30 whites on their way to Saint Augustine Florida. 44 of the slaves were killed in a corn field by the militia.
- Nat Turner's Rebellion (1831) - Turner was a slave who became a Baptist preacher. He organized a revolt in Southampton County, Virginia. Turner and 7 followers killed their master and family. They went through the county and ended up killing 55 whites (24 children). Turner and 19 slaves were hanged.

### The Fugitive Slave Act and the Underground Railroad

- Act required federal marshals and deputies to aid in the capture and return of escaped slaves throughout the United States.
- Part of the Compromise of 1850

- Served to inflame the angry passions of abolitionists in the North
- Moderate abolitionists joined other abolitionist and protested the act.
- Southern bounty hunters arrested and kidnapped blacks who had lived in the North as free people. Claimed children born in freedom as escaped slaves
- Underground railroad - loose system of safe havens that helped slaves escape to the North.
- Traveled by night. Most frequently traveled routes ran through Ohio, Indiana, and western Pennsylvania.
- People who helped the slaves escape could face harassment and imprisonment if caught.

### The Many Voices of Abolition

- Early abolitionist felt that slavery was a moral abomination.
- American Anti-Slavery Society - founded in 1833. called for end of slavery. Wanted political rights for freed blacks.
- Abolitionist faced opposition from both the North and South.
- 1837 - Reverend Elijah Lovejoy was killed by a proslavery mob. (editor of antislavery newspaper)
- 1852 - the Abolitionist movement gained members with the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 and the publication of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

### Northern Abolitionist

- William Lloyd Garrison
  - born 1805
  - publisher of the leading abolitionist newspaper the Boston-based *Liberator*
  - started publishing in 1831
- Charles Calistus Burleigh
  - attorney who became a lecturer for the Middlesex Anti-Slavery Society in Massachusetts. (24 years old)

### African American Abolitionist

- Frederick Douglass
  - editor and publisher of *The North Star*
  - spoke out against slavery throughout the North
  - he was born a slave in 1817
  - Age of 8 went to Baltimore to work as a house servant

- taught to read by master's wife.
- escaped North
- Attended a meeting of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society
- Was hired as a full time abolitionist lecturer by Garrison
- Sojourner Truth
  - illiterate slave who ran away.
  - spent most of her life lecturing on the horrors of slavery
  - deeply religious
  - supported women's rights and abolition
- Harriet Tubman
  - Maryland slave
  - ran away in 1849
  - spent her life helping other slaves runaway through the Underground Railroad.
- Charles Lenox Remond
  - first black man to speak at public meetings on behalf of abolition
  - free man from Salem, Mass.
  - agent of the Mass chapter of the American Anti-Slavery Society
  - 1840 - represented the organization at the first World Anti-Slavery Convention in London.

### Abolition in the South

- late 1820s - Southern abolitionist outnumbered Northern groups.
- 1832 - Virginia legislature debated a proposal for gradual, compensatory emancipation that would have become effective in 1861.

### The Dred Scott Decision

- Dred Scott was owned by John Emerson
- Army doctor from Missouri
- moved to different army post between 1834 and 1838
- Emerson died in 1843
- Scott sued for his freedom in the Missouri courts. Argued that his stay in a free state and free territory made him a free man.
- 1856 - case heard in the Supreme Court. Ruled against Dred Scott
- Southern slave owners celebrated.
- Northerners were outraged.

## Bleeding Kansas

- 1854 - part of the land acquired in the Louisiana Purchase was divided into two territories (Kansas and Nebraska)
- Senator Stephen Douglas wrote the Kansas-Nebraska Act which introduced the concept of popular sovereignty. (right of people organizing as a state to decide by popular vote whether to have slavery or not.)
- Kansas voted to become a free state.
- Proslavery supporters entered the state from slave states and tried to influence the balance of votes.
- Violence and bloodshed became common.
- Kansas became known as "Bleeding Kansas"
- 200 people died in guerilla warfare
- Radical Abolitionist John Brown, four sons, and two others killed five proslavery settlers near Pottawatomie Creek (May 24, 1856)

## John Brown's Harper Ferry Raid

- Brown is remembered as the radical abolitionist who attempted a slave rebellion and tried to capture the armory at Harpers Ferry, Virginia.
- Born in Torrington, Connecticut 1800
- 1855 went to the Kansas Territory with five of his sons.
- Contributed to the battle of Pottawatomie Massacre

## The Revolt

- October 16, 1859 - 22 followers and Brown went to Harper's Ferry.
- Wanted to take the federal arsenal and armory.
- Wanted to give arms to slaves.
- The group was able to seize the building
- Residents surrounded the abolitionist and started shooting
- Brown was barricaded in a fire engine house
- Marines led by Lt. Col. Robert E. Lee arrived to put down the insurrection.
- Brown was captured and found guilty of murder, treason, and inciting insurrection.
- December 2, 1859 - he was hanged.

## Secession

## The South's Threat to Secede

- 1860 - Southern newspapers increasingly advocated withdrawal from the Union.
- Northerners believed that the South was simply beating its chest and would fall back in line once the presidential election was over.

## A Union Dissolved

- Election of Abraham Lincoln
- Republican who was against slavery.
- supported by many vocal abolitionist
- South feared that The North was richer, had more population, industries, could impose their will on them.
- South felt that they had to break away from the Union.
- Southern states felt that they had the right to leave the Union because they were being oppressed by the federal government and could justify leaving because the federal government's laws were harmful.
- The federal government saw secession as treason.
- President Buchanan did nothing to stop the South.
- Buchanan stated that he had no legal right to secede. Felt that he didn't have the authority to stop them.
- December 20, 1860 - South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union.
- Six states followed
  - Mississippi (January 9, 1861)
  - Florida (January 10, 1861)
  - Alabama (January 11, 1861)
  - Georgia (January 19, 1861)
  - Louisiana (January 26, 1861)
  - Texas (February 1, 1861)
- Fort Sumter fell on April 14, 1861
  - Virginia (April 17, 1861)
  - Arkansas (April May 6, 1861)
  - North Carolina (May 20, 1861)
  - Tennessee (June 8, 1861)

## Continued Dissent

- Most Southerners supported secession because they were tired of what they viewed as interference in their culture, lifestyle, and economy from Northern politicians, industry, and bankers.
- Some Southerners felt that secession was too strong and volatile an act that the differences between the two regions could be amicably worked out.
- In the North - some felt that Southern secession was a good thing.
- The majority felt that secession was treason and that the Union might be destroyed.